

Spring 2007 LAS Links Proficiency Assessment Pre-Test Workshop

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Benefits of LAS Links:

- Strong link to Indiana's Academic and English Language Proficiency standards
- Reasonable test administration time
- Aligned initial screening/placement tool in place as of Fall 2006
- Solid measure of reclassification to FEP
- Ability to measure progress over time via growth from one level to the next and within a level of proficiency
- Spanish-language parent reports
- Detailed reports on individual student achievement

Spring 2006 LAS Links Results:

Number of K-12 Students Statewide at Each Level of Proficiency:

Level 1:	4,540	(12%)
Level 2:	4,764	(12%)
Level 3:	8,987	(23%)
Level 4:	12,574	(37%)
Level 5:	6,022	(16%)

NCLB Assessment Requirements

- *No Child Left Behind* legislation requires that all limited English proficient students participate in two types of assessment (**academic** - ISTEP+, and **English proficiency** - LAS Links) on an annual basis.
- Federal flexibility establishes that LEP students in their first year of enrollment in U.S. schools are required to participate in the *math and science* academic assessments but have the option of participating in the *English/LA* assessment **OR** substituting the LAS Links English proficiency assessment to meet the English language requirement.
- Annual participation in both the **academic** and **English proficiency** assessments is required in order to meet the expectations of NCLB.

English Proficiency Assessment:

Annually measure the English proficiency of all LEP students [T3, sect. 3116(b)(3)(C)]

- Spring 2006: first administration of LAS Links
- Fall 2006: implementation of LAS Links Placement Test
- Spring 2007: second administration of LAS Links to measure progress from Spring 2006 level and identify students for formal exit from language instruction program

Timeline for 2007 Administration:

- Test Window: February 16 – April 13th
- Test Pick-up: April 13-18th

NOTE: all test materials must be returned to CTB by Saturday, **APRIL 21st**. No testing materials may be returned prior to April 13th.

- Scoring and Reporting: Mid- to late May
- Parent Notification: letter and student score report to be sent to parents by the end of June

Changes to the 2007 Administration

- **Form B** of the LAS Links will be utilized for the Spring 2007 administration. Please retain copies of Form A, as they will be used in Spring 2008.
- **Barcodes** will be provided for all LEP students enrolled in the district as of October 1, 2006 (Source: DOE-PE *Pupil Enrollment Report*)

Who should participate?

Two main groups of language minority students should be included in the Spring 2007 LAS Links administration:

- Students who scored at Levels 1-4 of proficiency per either the Spring 2006 LAS Links administration or the LAS Links Placement Test
- Students who scored a Level 5 on the Spring 2006 LAS Links and are preparing to exit the language instruction program

NOTE: *Students who scored a Level 5 on the placement test* DO NOT need to be included in the 2007 LAS Links administration, as proficiency has already been demonstrated and student never entered the language instruction program.

Who may administer LAS Links?

Examiners/proctors of the LAS Links assessment must be:

- 1) fluent in English (per local determination)
 - 2) familiar with the test material, particularly the Speaking section
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- For any procedural questions, please refer to the Test Coordinator Manual (TCM) or the LAS Links Help Desk at (800) 282-1132.

Reclassification of LEP Students:

Proficiency in English for limited English proficient (LEP) students is based on attaining an Overall score of Level 5 on the LAS Links English Proficiency Assessment twice consecutively (Spring 06 and Spring 07).

Spring 2006/Year 1: Exit English language development services and reclassify as FEP for reporting purposes and begin informal monitoring
(Note: at this point students no longer generate funding)

Spring 2007/Year 2: Begin NCLB required formal two-year monitoring period *(No further English proficiency assessment required)*

The ISTEP+ scores of these students count in the LEP sub-group for AYP throughout this time.

Two Year Monitoring of Former LEP Students:

The formal two-year monitoring period begins when a student attains proficiency (Overall score of **Level 5**) on the LAS Links English Proficiency Assessment for the **second time** (Spring 2007). During this two-year period, exited students are still entitled to access all services provided through the district's language development program, if needed.

Monitored students should:

- perform on-par with native English speaking peers
- have full access to all aspects of the mainstream curriculum and participate successfully
- have access to language instruction services if needed

Questions?

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